

From: Bill Wimsatt
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 6:43pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I whole heartedly disagree with the settlement with Microsoft. I have been working in the computer industry since 1983 and have found that Microsoft is an immoveable rock and an untrustworthy partner.

- 1) The settlement should not allow MS to provide their software to schools. This will further entrench them into the market; furthermore, it is the one market where they are weakest. So, this solution will give them an astonishing new capability in this segment. Furthermore, they will be able to extol upgrades, and service contracts that will line their pockets once again. The money should be donated to schools or the solution should be Apple, Linux, or Solaris based.
- 2) I was involved in the Air Force Desktop IV contract case in which the contract award was challenged on the basis that it was an unfair award. Microsoft and Intel were the big winners in that contract and it was not possible to win without their solutions. Not because they had the best technology, but because they were pervasive in the Air Force and no other solution could topple their strangle hold. During this contract, we had to negotiate with Microsoft for their suite. They would not allow us to put just one part of their suite with our bid. We had to take it all or nothing, even though there were better solutions for calendaring, and presentations. But since we had to use MS Word, and Excel to be even considered during the bid process, we also had to take an inferior PowerPoint and outlook products.
- 3) As a developer now, I am continually up against the Microsoft compatibility issue. MS Windows compatibility is required in every effort because MS is pervasive in the industry. I cannot bring a competitive offering to the market because it will not be seriously reviewed unless it is running on Windows or has Internet Explorer as the Browser.

I find it disheartening the DOJ was not able to remove MS's monopoly in the market. MS is stifling the industry and causing impenetrable economic barriers to entry.

Regards,
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